

REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is filed in reply to the final Office action dated July 16, 2007. Claims 1, 5, 9, 14, 18, 22, 26, 31, 35, 39, 43, 48, 52 and 56 are amended, claims 4, 13, 21, 30, 38, 47 and 55 are canceled and claims 3, 11-12, 20, 28-29, 37, 45-46 and 54 were previously canceled. Accordingly, after entry of this Amendment and Response, claims 1-2, 5-10, 14-19, 22-27, 31-36, 39-44, 48-53 and 56-59 remain pending.

I. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-2, 5-10, 13-20, 22-27, 31-37, 39-44, 48-54 and 56-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,678,867 to Fong et al. (hereinafter "Fong") in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0162841 to Bernstein et al. (hereinafter "Bernstein"). In response, the allowable subject matter of dependent claims 4, 21, 30, 38, 47 and 55 are incorporated into independent claims 1, 18, 26, 35, 43 and 52, respectively. Independent claim 9 is amended to include a similar claim limitation. Accordingly, dependent claims 4, 13, 21, 30, 38, 47 and 55 are canceled. Assignee respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 9, 18, 26, 35, 43 and 52 are patentable over Fong in view of Bernstein and such indication is respectfully requested. The remaining rejected claims 2, 5-8, 10, 14-17, 19, 22-25, 27, 31-34, 36, 39-42, 44, 48-51, 53 and 56-59 all depend, either directly or indirectly, from one of independent claims 1, 9, 18, 26, 35, 43 and 52. Accordingly, these dependent claims are patentable over Fong in view of Bernstein, for at least the same reasons, and such indication is respectfully requested.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 4, 21, 30, 38, 47 and 55 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, as discussed above, each dependent claim 4, 21, 30, 38, 47 and 55 has been incorporated into its corresponding base claim 1, 18, 26, 35, 43 and 52, respectively, to place the application in form for allowance.

III. Conclusion

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his thorough review of the application. The Applicant respectfully submits the present application, as amended, is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the issuance of a Notice of Allowability as soon as practicable.

The Applicant believes no fees or petitions are due with this filing. However, should any such fees or petitions be required, please consider this a request therefor and authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1415 as necessary.

If the Examiner should require any additional information or amendment, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated: Sept. 19, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory P. Durbin', written over a horizontal line.

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